



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017 at 2:15 p.m.

By

Jerris Hedges, MD, Dean

and

Kelley Withy, MD, Professor, Department of Complementary and Alternative Medicine  
Hawaii/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Director

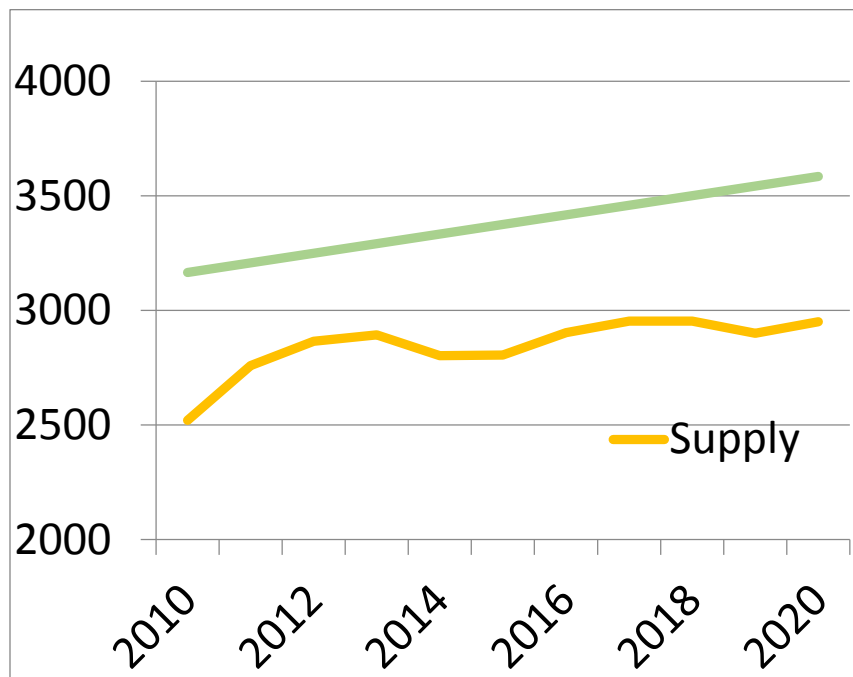
John A. Burns School of Medicine  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### SB 141 – RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB 141, which permits continuation of the Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment program that supports research of the supply and demand of physicians in Hawai'i, as well as interventions to recruit physicians and increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017.

Hawai'i has a shortage of over 500 doctors, which has improved from a shortage of 600 in 2015. The pattern of physician supply and demand is outlined in the graph below.



Activities that have been undertaken with the funds paid by the physicians upon relicensure include:

Continuing Medical Education for over 4,000 person-hours a year in the form of

1. An annual Hawai'i Health Workforce Summit for 500 providers to learn about changes in healthcare, avoidance of burn out, new advances in rural health, geriatrics and electronic health records;
2. Project ECHO, weekly telehealth sessions addressing endocrinology/diabetes, behavioral health, and geriatrics (monthly).

Recruitment of new physicians to Hawai'i - physicians have found employment in Hawai'i based on job advertisements at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu) where all open positions in the state are advertised and collaboration with Hawai'i Physician Recruiters group.

Support for activities to recruit students into health careers such as those at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu).

Support for state efforts to get expanded federal designations of Health Professions Shortage Areas.

Support for 13 physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas.

Support for the Hawai'i Ho'okipa Program, a welcoming program for newly arriving providers to get them integrated into the community where they work.

Support training for medical students in rural areas.

Creation of a Rural Health Coordinator at University of Hawai'i that will work with all health students working in rural areas to increase opportunities and track impact of the rural training programs.

Medical malpractice reform (2013).

Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai'i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



949 Kamokila Boulevard, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 350, Kapolei, HI 96707  
808.675.7300 | [www.ohanahealthplan.com](http://www.ohanahealthplan.com)

February 3, 2017

To: The Honorable Chair Kaiali'i Kahele  
Senate Committee on Higher Education

The Honorable Chair Rosalyn Baker  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: 'Ohana Health Plan  
Danny Cup Choy; Director, Government Affairs

Re: SB 141, Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment; **In Support**  
February 7, 2017; Conference Room 224

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'Ohana Health Plan ('Ohana) is a member of the WellCare Health Plans, Inc.'s ("WellCare") family of companies and provides healthcare for Hawai'i residents statewide. Since 2009, 'Ohana has utilized WellCare's national experience to develop a Hawai'i -specific care model that addresses local members' healthcare and health coordination needs. By focusing on the state's Medicaid and Medicare population, 'Ohana serves Hawaii's most vulnerable residents: low-income, elderly, disabled, and individuals with complex medical issues. Our mission is to help our members' lead better, healthier lives.

'Ohana Health Plan offers our **support** of SB 141, which allows the John A. Burns School of Medicine to continue to receive a portion of the physician workforce assessment fee for ongoing physician workforce assessment and planning to support the recruitment and retention of physicians in the State.

It is no secret that we face a provider shortage in our state. Supporting the recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals, specifically in rural and medically underserved areas, is necessary in order to address this issue. We support this bill as a key initiative to help with Hawaii's provider shortage, which will hopefully result in greater access to quality care for all of our state's residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.



February 7, 2017  
2:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 224

To: The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair  
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Higher Education

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: Laura Esslinger, Chief Executive Officer  
Paula Arcena, Chief Customer Officer  
Rachel Wilkinson, Public Policy Analyst

Re: SB141 Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment

AlohaCare appreciates the opportunity to testify **in support** of SB141 which allows the John A. Burns School of Medicine to continue to receive a portion of the physician workforce assessment fee for ongoing physician workforce assessment and planning to support the recruitment and retention of physicians in the state, particularly those in rural and medically underserved areas.

AlohaCare is a non-profit, Hawaii based health plan founded in 1994 by Hawaii's community health centers. We serve Medicaid and Medicare Special Needs beneficiaries in all counties.

It is no secret Hawaii has a shortage of physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists, and many other healthcare providers. Continuing the physician workforce assessment will help provide continuing medical education, new provider recruitment, training for medical students in rural areas, and support for physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas, among other beneficial aspects of this program.

Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost licensed physicians of Hawaii \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
HAWAII MEDICAL BOARD**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
HIGHER EDUCATION

AND

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2017

Tuesday, February 7, 2017  
2:15 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 141, RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE  
ASSESSMENT.**

TO THE HONORABLE KAIALI'I KAHELE, CHAIR,  
TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Jone Geimer-Flanders, D.O., and I am an osteopathic physician member of the Hawaii Medical Board ("**Board**"). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Bill No. 141, Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment. Senate Bill No. 141 proposes to continue to allow the John A. Burns School of Medicine ("**JABSOM**") to continue to receive a portion of the physician workforce assessment fee to support physician workforce assessment and planning to effect the strategic recruitment and retention of physicians for rural and medically underserved areas of the State.

The Board reviewed a draft of this bill at its meeting on January 12, 2017, and respectfully requests that the assessment fee be repealed by June 30, 2017.

While the Board understands the importance of the physician workforce assessment and planning to effect the strategic recruitment and retention of physicians for rural and medically underserved areas of the State, the Board provided the following comments regarding the data presented:

- **Quality of data:** JABSOM uses a distinct methodology which is currently being used by very few states. JABSOM collects data through a survey based process, therefore deeply limiting any comparisons. For example, The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care and the Association of American Medical Colleges used methodologies to examine all states, and have concluded findings contrary to JABSOM's study. Based on information presented by both organizations, Hawaii patients' access to care is at the national average, and in some cases better than the national average. The Board did recognize that there is a mal-distribution of specialists throughout the State; however, Hawaii has more physicians per 100,000 residents than many other states.
- **Access to care:** The primary issue should be access to care and the breakdown of access to care. Access to care is the focus of national health policy, and should be determined by how quickly a patient is able to see a physician and the distance which the patient must travel to see that physician. The Board noted that this has not been used as an outcome measure in any of the data presented by JABSOM.

Lastly, if it is the intent of the Committees to move this measure forward, the Board recommends that any monies collected through the physician workforce assessment be used towards increasing medical class sizes at JABSOM and increasing graduate medical education class sizes in the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Bill No. 141, Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 8:19 PM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Cc:** dshaw@lanaicommunityhealthcenter.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB141 on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM

**SB141**

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for HRE/CPH on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Diana Shaw	Lanai Community Health Center	Support	No

Comments: Please support this loan repayment measure. It is of critical support for rural areas such as Lanai.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

Jolene Muneno

SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB141, which permits continuation of the Hawai`i Physician Workforce Assessment program that supports research of the supply and demand of physicians in Hawai`i, as well as interventions to recruit physicians and increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017. So if you don't act on this all the activities will end!

It is clear that my community has a shortage of physicians, as well as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists and many other healthcare providers. Continuing the physician workforce assessment will help in these ways:

Providing Continuing Medical Education for me.

Recruiting new providers on the website [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu)

Creating the Health Career Navigator and supporting activities to recruit students into health careers such as those at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu).

Support for state efforts to get expanded federal designations of Health Professions Shortage Areas.

Support for 13 physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas.

Support for the Hawai`i Ho`okipa Program, a welcoming program for newly arriving providers to get them integrated into the community where they work.

Support training for medical students in rural areas.

Creation of a Rural Health Coordinator at University of Hawai`i that will work with all health students working in rural areas to increase opportunities and track impact of the rural training programs.

Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai'i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

Erica Davis

SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

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Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai'i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 5, 2017 8:33 PM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Cc:** jmisailidis@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB141 on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM

**SB141**

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for HRE/CPH on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Misailidis, MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees: Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB141, which permits continuation of the Hawai`i Physician Workforce Assessment program that supports research of the supply and demand of physicians in Hawai`i, as well as interventions to recruit physicians and increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017. So if you don't act on this all the activities will end! It is clear that my community has a shortage of physicians, as well as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists and many other healthcare providers. I work at the Queen Emma Clinics, which serves a vulnerable population. There are many other such patients that need and deserve excellent care. Continuing the physician workforce assessment will help in these ways: Providing Continuing Medical Education for me. Recruiting new providers on the website [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu) Creating the Health Career Navigator and supporting activities to recruit students into health careers such as those at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu). Support for state efforts to get expanded federal designations of Health Professions Shortage Areas. Support for 13 physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas. Support for the Hawai`i Ho`okipa Program, a welcoming program for newly arriving providers to get them integrated into the community where they work. Support training for medical students in rural areas. Creation of a Rural Health Coordinator at University of Hawai`i that will work with all health students working in rural areas to increase opportunities and track impact of the rural training programs. Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai`i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
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February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

Ka`ohimanu Dang Akiona, MD, Chief Resident, Hawai`i Island Family Medicine  
Residency Program, Hilo Medical Center, HHSC- East Hawaii Region

SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

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committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB141, which permits  
continuation of the Hawai`i Physician Workforce Assessment program that supports  
research of the supply and demand of physicians in Hawai`i, as well as interventions to  
recruit physicians and increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. As a soon  
to be graduate of the rural family medicine residency program, this program is very  
important to my current development and my future growth as a physician dedicated to  
my East Hawai`i community. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30,  
2017. So if you don't act on this all the activities will end!

It is clear that my community has a shortage of physicians, as well as nurse  
practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists and many other healthcare  
providers. Continuing the physician workforce assessment will help in these ways:

Providing Continuing Medical Education for me to keep my knowledge up to date.

Recruiting new providers on the website [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu)

Creating the Health Career Navigator and supporting activities to recruit students into  
health careers such as those at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu).

Support for state efforts to get expanded federal designations of Health Professions  
Shortage Areas. This effort will affect my colleagues and I directly as this has  
implications for federal support pending a more accurate needs assessment of  
the communities we serve.

Support for 13 physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas.  
As debt burden continues to overshadow many career decisions, this can greatly  
increase the likelihood that providers choose to stay in rural communities.

Support for the Hawai`i Ho`okipa Program, a welcoming program for newly arriving  
providers to get them integrated into the community where they work.

Support training for medical students in rural areas. Exposure to our wonderful communities at an early stage in training and creating opportunities for mentoring relationship increases the likelihood of providers returning and staying.

Creation of a Rural Health Coordinator at University of Hawai'i that will work with all health students working in rural areas to increase opportunities and track impact of the rural training programs. This has very direct impact on the recruitment of providers particularly to the neighbor island communities like East Hawai'i.

Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai'i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

David Sakamoto

SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB141, which permits continuation of the Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment program. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017. If no action is taken on this measure, all the activities will end!

There are a number of reasons to maintain this program, but the most compelling is this: The organization that publishes the most widely used physician workforce data at the national and state level is the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC), a fine organization. But the primary data source for its biennial physician supply report is The American Medical Association (AMA) Physician Masterfile. This data has been carefully scrutinized by impartial researchers, who published their findings in peer reviewed journals. In short, they found AMA Masterfile data inaccurate and misleading. The reasons for this appear to be beyond the AMA's control.

Planning our healthcare delivery system has far-reaching implications for virtually everyone in the state. And starting with proven inaccurate data is nonsensical, particularly when SB141 maintains a source of good provider workforce data at no cost to the taxpayer.

I urge you to maintain the flow of accurate physician and other provider workforce data by passing SB141.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

David Sakamoto  
(808) 589-8081  
dtsret@gmail.com

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

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SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

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Support training for medical students in rural areas.

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February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

Stephen Bradley MD

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Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

Patricia McKenzie

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

## Testimony in Support of SB141

Hawaii has a shortage of over 500 doctors, as well as all other primary care and behavioral health providers. Without these providers, the people of Hawaii will not have ready access to the healthcare they need. The need is most acute on the neighbor islands and in remote regions.

The fastest and most cost effective way of recruiting providers to areas of need is by paying back their loans in return for continuous service to that area. SB141 would assist physicians with their student loan debt. It would also help given funding to recruitment of doctors to rural healthcare areas. As a medical provider taking care of patients in a rural environment, this bill is near and dear to my heart.

My name is (Heather) Hokulani Porter and I am a FNP working out in Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. I am part-Hawaiian and born and raised on the West Coast.

My FNP back ground trained me well enough to support our physicians and help take the burden off their load. My position as a FNP in our Nanakuli satellite health center paired me up with a FP doctor. I was able to take care of the majority of his health promotion visits (PAPS, EPSDTs) as well as same day acute visits (sick visits, maintenance of HTN and DMII meds and follow up labs). Which gave him time on his schedule to see patients in dire need of his care (ie f/u hospital discharge patients post-stroke, patients with valve disorders needing Coumadin therapy and monitoring of labs, seizure patients, kidney and heart failure patients, the list goes on.) However, with the shortage of doctors we have, NPs have been expected to see and care for sicker and sicker patients with multiple co-morbidities and provide care that we were not trained to provide. We do our best to take care of our patients, however, we are often left feeling as if the patient did not get the comprehensive care a physician's training would provide.

Not only will this bill support the physician shortage, but also the amazing training I have had the opportunity to receive through ECHO. This fantastic community of providers meet on a weekly basis to discuss a variety of condition and offer their expert help and advice. This has been extremely helpful for me especially and has allowed me a few resources to help those complicated patients that I mentioned I must provide care for because of our physician shortage. The training also offers FREE CME hours, which is very hard to come by. Obtaining CME is vital for all care providers to maintain their medical licensure.

Recently, my work schedule has changed and I can no longer partake in ECHO. I certainly miss the teaching community that helped me be a better provider.

Please support SB141 and help rural patients to get the quality care they deserve. Help us to be able to safely provide evidenced based care through the use of ECHO learning community. Finally, help us recruit needed health care providers to our rural areas and entice them to stay by removing the burden of student loans.

Mahalo for your time and attention to this matter. Please pass **SB 141!!**

Hokulani Porter RN, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, CNSBH

[Hokulani.porter@gmail.com](mailto:Hokulani.porter@gmail.com)







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To: The Honorable Kaialii Kahele, Chair  
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Higher Education

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From:  Paula Yoshioka, Senior Vice President, The Queen's Health Systems

Date: February 2, 2017

Hrg: Senate Committees on Higher Education and Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Joint Hearing; Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 2:15pm in Room 224

**Re: Support for SB 141, Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment**

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My name is Paula Yoshioka and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (QHS). We would like to express our **support** for SB 141, Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment. The Hawaii Physician Workforce Assessment Program supports research of the supply and demand of physicians in Hawaii, as well as interventions to recruit physicians and to increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017. This bill removes the sunset dates and allows this important program to continue.

At QHS, we support efforts to develop our current and future physician workforce given the projected shortage of physicians in our state. In FY 2015 we spent \$14.4 million in education and training to support current and future health care professionals in the community. Currently, Hawaii has a shortage of over 500 physicians, particularly in rural and underserved areas. This Program allows the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) to be able to collect and analyze data on the physician workforce to help with education, recruitment, training, and further support programs to ensure that those physicians who wish to stay and practice in Hawaii have the resources to do so.

We ask you to support the continuation of the Hawaii Physician Workforce Assessment Program. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.



**HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376  
www.hawaiimedicalassociation.org

**LATE**

FROM:  
HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
Dr. Chris Flanders, Executive Director  
Lauren Zirbel, Community and Government Relations

TO:  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
Senator Kaiali`i Kahele, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 7, 2017  
TIME: 2:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 224  
State Capitol

SB 141  
Position: Support, if amended

On behalf of the physician and medical student members of the Hawaii Medical Association, we are writing regarding our support for the Physician Workforce Assessment, provided that the sunset clause scheduled to expire on July 1, 2017 be renewed for 3 additional years. The Physician Workforce Assessment has been conducted for six years, demonstrating a continued downward trend in the physician workforce, at a cost approximating \$1,500,000 to the physician community. In spite of this, the state has yet to develop a comprehensive, effective strategy to counteract this problem.

If the state does not prioritize a solution to the physician shortage, there is no reason for the study to continue. The HMA would propose an amendment to extend the Physician Workforce Assessment sunset clause to June 30, 2020.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

**HMA OFFICERS**

President – Bernard Robinson, MD President-Elect – William Wong, Jr., MD Secretary – Thomas Kosasa, MD  
Immediate Past President – Scott McCaffrey, MD Treasurer – Michael Champion, MD  
Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO



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Executive Director – Christopher Flanders, DO



# HAWAI'I ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017

**LATE**

## SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB141, which permits continuation of the Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment program that supports research of the supply and demand of physicians in Hawai'i, as well as interventions to recruit physicians and increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017. So if you don't act on this all the activities will end!

It is clear that my community has a shortage of physicians, as well as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists and many other healthcare providers. Continuing the physician workforce assessment will help in these ways:

Providing Continuing Medical Education for me.

Recruiting new providers on the website [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu)

Creating the Health Career Navigator and supporting activities to recruit students into health careers such as those at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu).

Support for state efforts to get expanded federal designations of Health Professions Shortage Areas.

Support for 13 physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas.

Support for the Hawai'i Ho`okipa Program, a welcoming program for newly arriving providers to get them integrated into the community where they work.

Support training for medical students in rural areas.

Creation of a Rural Health Coordinator at University of Hawai'i that will work with all health students working in rural areas to increase opportunities and track impact of the rural training programs.

Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai'i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelley Withy".

Kelley Withy, MD, PhD, President HAFP

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 5:17 PM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Cc:** vgiani@hhsc.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB141 on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM

**SB141**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HRE/CPH on Feb 7, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vincent Giani	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committees on Higher Education and Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm By Vincent Giani, MD. First year resident at Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency. SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees: Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB141, which permits continuation of the Hawai`i Physician Workforce Assessment program that supports research of the supply and demand of physicians in Hawai`i, as well as interventions to recruit physicians and increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. Currently the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017. So if you don't act on this all the activities will end! It is clear that my community has a shortage of physicians, as well as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists and many other healthcare providers. Continuing the physician workforce assessment will help in these ways: Providing Continuing Medical Education for me. Recruiting new providers on the website [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu) Creating the Health Career Navigator and supporting activities to recruit students into health careers such as those at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu). Support for state efforts to get expanded federal designations of Health Professions Shortage Areas. Support for 13 physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas. Support for the Hawai`i Ho`okipa Program, a welcoming program for newly arriving providers to get them integrated into the community where they work. Support training for medical students in rural areas. Creation of a Rural Health Coordinator at University of Hawai`i that will work with all health students working in rural areas to increase opportunities and track impact of the rural training programs. Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai`i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities as well as capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Higher Education and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
February 7, 2017; 2:15 pm  
By

**LATE**

Deborah Peters, PhD

SB 141 –RELATING TO PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

Chairs Kahele and Baker, Vice Chairs Kidani and Nishihara, and members of the committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB141, which permits continuation of the Hawai'i Physician Workforce Assessment program that supports research on the supply and demand of physicians in Hawai'i, as well as, interventions to recruit physicians and increase career satisfaction of practicing physicians. Currently, the program is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017. If the Hawai'i State Legislature does not act on this, all the activities mentioned above will end.

It is clear that Hawai'i has a shortage of physicians, as well as, other health care providers, including nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and physical therapists. Continuing the physician workforce assessment will help in these ways:

Providing Continuing Medical Education for health care providers.

Recruiting new providers on the website [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu).

Creating the Health Career Navigator and supporting activities to recruit students into health careers, such as, those at [www.ahec.hawaii.edu](http://www.ahec.hawaii.edu).

Supporting state efforts to get expanded federal designations of Health Professions Shortage Areas.

Providing support for 13 physicians to receive loan repayment for working in underserved areas.

Providing support for the Hawai'i Ho`okipa Program, a welcoming program for newly arriving providers to get them integrated into the community where they work.

Supporting training for medical students in rural areas.

Creating a Rural Health Coordinator at the University of Hawai'i that will work with all health students working in rural areas to increase opportunities and track the impact of the rural training programs.

Continuation of the Physician Workforce Assessment program will cost the physicians of Hawai'i \$60 every other year and will allow for continuation of the above activities, as well as, the capacity to act rapidly when new ideas for solving the physician shortage are identified.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Deborah Peters, PhD  
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